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Project:

IP-118

OFFICE OF REPORTS AND ESTIMATES

Project Initiation Memorandum

Date: 16 May 1950

To:

D/Tr

From: Publications Division, Projects Planning

Subject: Airlines in Southeast Asia

Statement of Project:

25X1A

Origin: Internal

Problem: To furnish information on foreign-owned or financed airlines in Burma, Thailand, Indo-China, Hongkong, Indonesia, and Malaya.

Scope: Info requested:
Government regulation
List airlines
Resistance to formation of such airlines

Graphics (if any):

Form: Memorandum (orig & 2)

Draft due in D/Pub: 19 May 1950 by 1600

Responsible Division: D/Tr

Dissemination deadline
(if any)

19 May 1950

Internal Coordination: D/TE

Departmental Responsibilities: None

Classification to be no higher than: Secret

Recommended Dissemination: Requester only

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Attach carbon copy
of request to D/Tr's
copy of PIM

Confidential

Copies: D/T
D/FE
[redacted]
file

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Project: (P-118)

OFFICE OF REPORTS AND ESTIMATES

25X1A

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Classification to be no higher than: Secret

Recommended Dissemination: Regulator only

1. Southeast Asia - Transportation
2. Aviation - Southeast Asia

SECRET

11 May 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: D/Pub, ORE

25X1A

ATTENTION :

SUBJECT : Request for Information re
Airlines in South East Asia

REFERENCE : Our Case 25X1A

1. It is requested that this office be furnished the following information relative to foreign-owned or financed airlines in Burma, Thailand, Indo-China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, and Malaya:

a. Government regulations pertaining to the organization of subject airlines.

b. Reports of any such airlines now operating.

25X1A c. An estimate of the degree of resistance to the formation of such airlines in these countries.

2. This confirms the conversation held 10 May between

3. Receipt of this information by 19 May will be greatly appreciated.

25X1A

SECRET

SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS: Officer designations should be used in the "TO" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Routing and Record Sheet should be returned to Registry.

FROM:

ISB

11 May 1950

TR

NO.

5-23780

DATE

14 May

TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS
		REC'D	FWD'D		
1. D/Pub, ORE [REDACTED]					
2. 25X1A					
3.					
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Chief, D/Pub, ORE

23 May 1960

Chief, D/Tr, ORE

Airlines in Southeast Asia - IP-118

The following data are submitted in response to your request:

Without exception, airlines based in Burma, Thailand, Indo China, Hong Kong, Indonesia and Malaya are required to be substantially owned and effectively controlled either by the Governments or by nationals of these countries. However, foreign equipment and technical skills are extensively employed by these lines. International service by foreign carriers is permitted, generally under bilateral air agreements granting reciprocal rights.

Listed below are the airlines of the Southeast Asian countries, with an indication of the financial interests represented in each carrier.

BURMA

Union of Burma Airways, Rangoon, Burma. 100 percent government-owned. Union of Burma Airways is the chosen government air instrument, but several foreign airlines have been chartered recently by the government because of the inability of Union of Burma to furnish the required air lift. These are: Indonesian Airways, Cathay Pacific, Trans Asiatic Siam, United Airways.

THAILAND

Pacific Overseas Airlines, 37 Surawangse Road, Bangkok, Siam. 95 percent government-owned and negotiations are underway for the Thai Government to obtain the remaining 5 percent interest now held by an Englishman.

Siamese Airways, Siamese Airways Bldg., 6 Lon Luang Rd., Bangkok, Siam. 100 percent government-owned.

Trans Asiatic Airlines (TAA). 26 percent government-owned, 35 percent Thai nationals, 39 percent TAA Philippines. The Thai Government expects to gain control of TAA in the near future and consolidate all three Thai airlines within the framework of Siamese Airways.

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INDO CHINA

Air France (Far East Division). 100 percent owned by French Government.

Avions Taxis d'Indochine, 92 Rue Pellerin, Saigon. Owned by nationals.

Comptoir Saigonnais de Ravitaillement (COSARA), 6 Rue Tare (PO Box 176) Saigon. Owned by nationals.

Societe Indochinoise de Transport Aeriens, 5 Quai le Mayre de Vilers, Saigon. Owned by nationals.

HONG KONG

Cathay Pacific Airways, Princes Bldg., Charter Road, Hong Kong. A subsidiary of the privately-owned Australian National Airlines. Cathay Pacific was formerly owned by an American who still retains a 10 percent interest in the company.

Hong Kong Airways, York Bldg., Hong Kong. A subsidiary of British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC), with minor Hong Kong interests.

INDONESIA

Garuda Indonesian Airways, 15 Noordwijk, Jakarta, Indonesia. Controlled by United States of Indonesia with Royal Dutch Airlines (KLM) also having substantial interest. Under present agreement, KLM will manage airline for two years furnishing equipment and personnel.

MALAYA

Malayan Airways, Ocean Bldg., Singapore, Straits Settlement. Controlled by a Malayan national. Other holdings by BOAC and a Liverpool interest.

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File

29 May 1950

Chief, D/Pub, ONE

Chief, D/Tr, ONE

Airlines in Southeast Asia - SUPPLEMENT - IP-118.

Supplementary information to IP-118 is herewith submitted.

BURMA

In addition to the Union of Burma Airways (UBA) there exists another airline which is the government protected, Burmese owned Air Burma.

THAILAND

Trans Asiatic Airlines (TAA). The most recent report indicates that ownership of this airline is distributed as follows:

100
21
10

THAI GOV.	26%
THAI NATIONALS	34%
TAA (PHILIPPINES)	39%
US NATIONALS	01%

INDO-CHINA

A recent report indicates Societe Indochinoise de Transport Aeriens is predominately French owned rather than Vietnamese owned.

HONG KONG

It may be noted that no airlines operate within Hong Kong but rather between Hong Kong and points outside the Colony and that such international Air carriers as BOAC and PAA carry as much or more Hong Kong traffic as do the airlines domiciled there.

In addition to the two Hong Kong airlines mentioned in preliminary report the Macao Air Transport Company although incorporated in Macao has its head office in Hong Kong. It is owned by British and Portuguese interests.

25X1A

